



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

UNCLASSIFIED

January 18th, 2022

INFORMATION MEMO FOR AMBASSADOR STEPHANIE SULLIVAN, WEST AFRICA REGION

FROM: S/GAC – Acting U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Dr. Angeli Achrekar, DrPH, MPH

THROUGH: S/GAC Chair, Fatuma Y. Sanneh and PPM, Dr. Diana L. Huestis

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 PEPFAR Planned Allocation and Strategic Direction

Dear Ambassador Sullivan,

First and foremost, I sincerely hope that you and your team are safe and healthy. I am extremely grateful for your leadership of the PEPFAR program and additional COVID-19 response efforts during this difficult year.

While countries around the world continue to manage the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the U.S. government acts on its commitment of support, it is encouraging to see vaccines making their way around the globe. The COVID response efforts – and continued use of the PEPFAR platform to support testing and vaccine delivery and uptake at point of care settings – are essential to our ability to provide ongoing care and life saving support for people living with HIV. The PEPFAR program has faced many challenges as a program during this period. Nevertheless, the PEPFAR family and partners have carried the mission forward while enduring significant personal impacts of COVID-19. Despite these challenges, what remains true is the strength and resilience of PEPFAR in partnership with countries and communities – through our teams, and our programs in the midst of dueling pandemics.

Tremendous effort has been made by PEPFAR over the year to protect and accelerate the HIV gains, while leveraging the platform to respond to COVID-19 as well.

PEPFAR Country/Regional Operational Plan (COP/ROP) 2022 (for implementation in FY 2023) represents a pivotal year in PEPFAR, as several countries are reaching or approaching the agreed upon UNAIDS 95/95/95 benchmarks for attaining epidemic control. As countries approach these benchmarks, while pivoting from “scaling to close gaps” to “sustaining” epidemic control, we must ensure HIV program and population equity, address outstanding barriers that threaten to derail progress made in reducing new HIV infections and associated mortality, and tailor our programs to serve all populations.

This year it is particularly important to plan COP/ROP22 together with the country government, civil society, and multilateral partners. Across PEPFAR, the focus on equity requires vigilant attention to program data demonstrating results and gaps. A focus on equity also means a focus on population groups where our efforts to date have not closed gaps, and specific planning, resource allocation, and program tailoring are needed – depending on what the data reveal for each country – focusing on: children, adolescent girls and young women, and key populations.

UNCLASSIFIED

While implementation continues, or in many cases, has started to scale up, most PEPFAR countries are on a path to achieving program coverage goals. With that in mind, PEPFAR programs should focus on four key themes as we approach COP/ROP22 planning and implementation:

1. Achieve and sustain epidemic control using evidence-based, equitable, people-centered HIV prevention and treatment services
2. Support resilient and capacitated country health systems, communities, enabling environments, and local partners to build enduring capabilities
3. Strengthen cooperation and coordination for greater impact, burden sharing, and sustainability
4. Employ an equity lens with a persistent focus on reducing persistent inequalities experienced by children, key populations, and adolescent girls and young women

I want to applaud the PEPFAR West Africa Region team for:

- Achieving 107% of TX_NEW targets, enrolling an additional 37,462 PLHIV onto lifesaving ART, and growing the treatment cohort by 71.5% in ROP20 relative to ROP19
- Improving viral load suppression from 81% in ROP19 to 87% in ROP20
- Increasing TLD dispensing and multi-month dispensing (MMD) rates in most countries

Together with the host-country governments of the West Africa Regional countries and civil society leadership, we have made tremendous progress. The West Africa Region should be proud of the progress made over the past 18 years of PEPFAR implementation and we are deeply grateful for the ongoing deep coordination with the Global Fund and UNAIDS.

As you will see in COP guidance this year, changes in program direction will vary depending on where countries are in reaching epidemic control and the continued COVID-19 mitigations efforts each team is facing. While assessing possible shortfalls in programming arising from COVID-19, overarching challenges still exist.

Specifically, more focus and attention should be given to the following key challenges in the PEPFAR West Africa Region:

- Optimizing case-finding strategies to high-yield modalities, including index testing
- Addressing gaps in viral load coverage while further improving viral load suppression rates
- National adoption and roll out of DTG-10 for pediatrics and PrEP in all countries in the region

A fuller set of details, including funding earmarks and specific program direction are included in the accompanying COP/ROP 22 PEPFAR Planned Allocation and Strategic Direction.

Consistent with the approach from years past, PEPFAR teams will once again be responsible for setting their own targets across PEPFAR program areas (with the treatment current target no less than the result that was to be achieved in COP 2021) in consultation with stakeholders. Teams should bear in mind that PEPFAR targets are not PEPFAR's but flow directly from the partner country government's commitment to the UNAIDS and SDG 3 goals.

The PEPFAR COP/ROP 22 notional budget for the West Africa Region is **\$75,650,000** inclusive of all new funding accounts and applied pipeline. All earmarks and program directives provided below must be met. Targets and the subsequent approved budget should reflect the level of ambition the PEPFAR team, in collaboration with the host-country governments of the West Africa Regional countries and civil society, believes is critical for the country's progress towards controlling the pandemic and maintaining control.

Finally, in alignment with efforts by the U.S. government to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility as well as to advance equity for underserved communities and prevent and combat discrimination or exploitation on the basis of race, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation, PEPFAR will work to ensure that these principles are upheld, promoted, and advanced in all PEPFAR programs and in how we do business.

Please note that within the next few days our PEPFAR Chairs and PEPFAR Program Managers (PPMs), working closely with our CAST teams, will review this planning letter and details contained, herein, with your wider PEPFAR country team. Stakeholder engagement is essential for a productive and impactful planning process, and civil society engagement will continue to be an integral part of this planning process. Included in this planning letter is an outline of the expectations for engaging key stakeholders and civil society, as we continue to finalize our approach to hosting a virtual COP/ROP22 planning and approval process.

Once again, thank you for your continued leadership and engagement during the COP/ROP22 process.

Sincerely,

Angeli Achrekar

Attachment: **COP/ROP 2022 PEPFAR Planned Allocation and Strategic Direction.**

CC: S/GAC – Fatuma Y. Sanneh, Chair; Diana L. Huestis, PPM; and Naishah Hempfield, WAR PEPFAR Coordinator

Overview: COP/ROP 2022 PEPFAR Planned Allocation and Strategic Direction

With input from the field teams through the quarterly monitoring POARTs, as well as Headquarters Country Accountability and Support Teams (CAST) input, a thorough program review of your country over time has been conducted. This includes the end of year results of the Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020 and current COP 2021 implementation as we plan for COP 2022. We have noted the following key successes and challenges:

Successes:

1. PEPFAR's West Africa Region grew significantly in COP20, achieving 107% of the TX_NEW target and enrolling an additional 37,462 PLHIV onto lifesaving ART. Overall, the treatment cohort (TX_CURR) grew by 71.5% in ROP20, with a total of 150,030 PLHIV on ART by the end of FY21.
2. The West Africa Region increased the overall viral load suppression rate from 81% in ROP19 to 87% in ROP20, with all but one country increasing VLS.
3. Significant progress was made across the West Africa Region countries in increasing TLD dispensing and eliminating NVP-based regimens. The rate of multi-month dispensing (MMD) also increased in many countries across the region, although the transition from 3-MMD to 6-MMD is still underway.

Challenges:

1. All country programs still need to further optimize their mix of case-finding strategies by increasing the proportion of high-yield modalities, including index testing. This was evidenced by the gap in HTS_TEST achievement (157%) vs. the HTS_POS achievement (111%), indicating that far more tests were administered relative to new positives found. Index testing yield is extremely high but accounts for a small proportion of tests in most countries in the region.
2. Across the region, viral load coverage was lower than expected, with only 53% achievement of PVLS_D targets. Work is needed to address gaps in viral load coverage, such as machine/reagent availability while simultaneously further improving clinical practices to increase viral load suppression rates of PLHIV in the West Africa Region.
3. Several countries in the region are still in the process of national adoption and roll out of PrEP for those at high risk of HIV infection, such as KPs and AGYW. Policy adoption of DTG10 for pediatrics is still needed by all countries in the region except Benin.

Given the region's status of achieved or near achieving epidemic control, the following priority strategic and integrated changes are recommended:

1. Improve HIV treatment and prevention by completing full TLD transition in all countries, shifting from 3-month MMD to 6-month MMD as quickly as possible, advocating for policy adoption of DTG10 for pediatrics, and advancing the roll out of PrEP across the region.
2. Further optimize case-finding strategies by reducing low-yield strategies and increasing index testing and other high-yield strategies such as mobile/community sites. Improve case-finding and treatment outcomes for pediatrics, including index testing of all children from HIV-positive mothers, optimization of EID networks, and implementation of updated ARV regimens for pediatrics following WHO guidelines.
3. Take full advantage of and build up the regional knowledge base, expertise, best-practices, and innovations to improve overall program performance in the region. This includes fully staffing up by filling vacant positions, expanding regional collaboration on lab and VLC, and sharing best practices in SI, supply chain, and other areas.

SECTION 1: ROP 2022 PLANNING LEVEL

Based upon current analysis of spend levels, information submitted for the End-of-Fiscal Year 2021 (EOFY) tool, and performance data, the total ROP 2022 planning level is comprised as follows: Note – all pipeline numbers were provided and confirmed by your agency.

TABLE 1: All ROP 2022 Funding by Appropriation Year

	Bilateral				Central				Total
	FY22	FY21	FY20	Unspecified	FY22	FY21	FY20	Unspecified	TOTAL
Total New Funding	\$ 68,966,401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 70,166,401
GHP-State	\$ 68,463,350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 68,463,350
GHP-USAID	\$ -				\$ 1,200,000				\$ 1,200,000
GAP*	\$ 503,051								\$ 503,051
Total Applied Pipeline	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,483,599	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,483,599
DOD				\$ 74,446				\$ -	\$ 74,446
HHS/CDC				\$ 1,652,066				\$ -	\$ 1,652,066
HHS/HRSA				\$ -				\$ -	\$ -
USAID				\$ 3,698,135				\$ -	\$ 3,698,135
USAID/WCF				\$ 58,952				\$ -	\$ 58,952
State				\$ -				\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL FUNDING	\$ 68,966,401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,483,599	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,650,000

*CDC GAP funds are \$50,000 for the West Africa Regional M&O and \$453,051 for Ghana

TABLE 1a: All ROP 2022 Funding by Country

TOTAL ROP22 PLANNING LEVEL: \$75,000,000	of which, Central Condom Funds	of which, CDC Pipeline	of which, DOD Pipeline	of which, USAID Pipeline	of which, USAID/ WCF Pipeline	ROP21 level, including central condom funds*
Benin	\$ 5,850,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000,000
Burkina Faso	\$ 10,150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 987,485	\$ 524,275	\$ -	\$ 10,950,000
Ghana	\$ 12,700,000	\$ 410,000	\$ 223,870	\$ 33,345	\$ 20,860	\$ 13,368,000
Liberia	\$ 9,250,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 41,101	\$ 1,187,463	\$ 10,071,000
Mali	\$ 9,350,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 50,711	\$ 447,255	\$ 26,606	\$ 10,060,000
Senegal	\$ 7,250,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 1,284,172	\$ -	\$ 8,000,000
Sierra Leone	\$ 7,900,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,678,500
Togo	\$ 11,000,000	\$ 180,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,980,000
West Africa Region M&O	\$ 2,200,000	\$ -	\$ 390,000	\$ 24,279	\$ -	\$ 1,900,000
Total	\$ 75,650,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,652,066	\$ 74,446	\$ 3,698,135	\$ 81,007,500

*ROP21 amounts shown for ease of reference

SECTION 2: COP 2022 BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Countries should plan for the full Care and Treatment (C&T) level of **\$37,829,000** and the full Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) level of **\$0** of the PLL across all funding sources. These earmark levels on new funding are subsets of those amounts that must be programmed with specific types of funding due to Congressional requirements. The full amount programmed across all sources will be visible in the FAST.

TABLE 2: COP 2022 Earmarks by Appropriation Year*

	Appropriation Year			
	FY22	FY21	FY20	TOTAL
C&T	\$ 37,829,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,829,000
OVC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GBV**	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water**	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

*Only GHP-State and GHP-USAID will count towards the earmarks (Care and Treatment, OVC, GBV, and Water).

**Only GHP-State will count towards the GBV and Water earmarks

TABLE 3: COP 2022 Initiative Controls: Each dollar planned in COP can belong to only one initiative. Most COP funding will be budgeted as Core Program. In general, initiatives other than Core Program are used to track activities/programs that cannot be tracked by the combination of program area and beneficiary alone. See Appendix 1 for more detailed information on initiatives.

	Bilateral	Central	TOTAL
Total Funding	\$ 74,450,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 75,650,000
Core Program	\$ 74,450,000	\$ -	\$ 74,450,000
Community-Led Monitoring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Condoms (GHP-USAID Central Funding)	\$ -	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000

TABLE 4: Programmatic Controls: Programmatic controls are used to track programmatic directives that can be tracked by a combination of program area and/or beneficiary. Programmatic controls may overlap with Initiatives, for example PrEP for Adolescent Girls and Young Women may count towards both the DREAMS Initiative and the PrEP (AGYW) programmatic control. See Appendix 1 for more detailed information on programmatic controls.

	Bilateral	Central	TOTAL
Total Funding	\$ 718,600	\$ -	\$ 718,600
PrEP (AGYW)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
PrEP (KPs)	\$ 718,600	\$ -	\$ 718,600

TABLE 5: State ICASS Funding

	Appropriation Year
	FY22
ICASS	\$ 76,053

See Appendix 1 for detailed budgetary requirements and other budgetary considerations.

SECTION 3: PAST PERFORMANCE – COP/ROP 2020 Review

TABLE 6. COP/ROP OU Level FY21 Program Results (COP20) against FY22 Targets (COP21)

Indicator	FY21 result (COP20)	FY22 target (COP21)
TX Current <15	6,600	19,266
TX Current 15+	137,353	214,855
VMMC >15	n/a	n/a
DREAMS (AGYW PREV)	n/a	n/a
Cervical Cancer Screening	n/a	n/a
TB Preventive Therapy	n/a	n/a

TABLE 7. COP/ROP 2020 | FY 2021 Agency-level Outlays versus Approved Budget

OU/Agency	Approved COP/ROP 2020 Planning Level	Total FY 2021 Outlays	Over/Under Outlays
Burkina Faso	\$7,000,000	\$3,903,463	\$3,096,537
HHS/CDC	\$980,000	\$2,249	\$977,751
USAID	\$4,372,192	\$2,370,886	\$2,001,306
USAID/WCF	\$1,647,808	\$1,530,328	\$117,480
Ghana	\$9,087,000	\$8,198,217	\$888,783
DOD	\$550,000	\$542,567	\$7,433
HHS/CDC	\$1,640,000	\$1,043,939	\$596,061
State	\$82,000	\$141,229	-\$59,229
USAID	\$5,372,000	\$5,490,263	-\$118,263
USAID/WCF	\$1,443,000	\$980,219	\$462,781
Liberia	\$9,029,477	\$6,358,964	\$2,670,513
DOD	\$499,477	\$408,944	\$90,533
HHS/HRSA	\$2,039,620	\$374,392	\$1,665,228
USAID	\$6,140,380	\$5,465,373	\$675,007
USAID/WCF	\$350,000	\$110,255	\$239,745
Mali	\$9,422,000	\$6,841,018	\$2,580,982
HHS/CDC	\$230,000	\$173,350	\$56,650
USAID	\$8,543,382	\$6,023,774	\$2,519,608
USAID/WCF	\$648,618	\$643,894	\$4,724
Senegal	\$7,160,000	\$5,752,462	\$1,407,538
DOD	\$515,001	\$502,307	\$12,694
HHS/CDC	\$550,000	\$650,000	-\$100,000
USAID	\$5,437,141	\$4,049,801	\$1,387,340
USAID/WCF	\$657,858	\$550,354	\$107,504
Sierra Leone	\$5,125,000	\$3,727,280	\$1,397,720
HHS/CDC	\$30,000	\$22,350	\$7,650
HHS/HRSA	\$5,095,000	\$3,704,930	\$1,390,070
USAID/WCF	\$0	\$0	\$0
Togo	\$5,527,000	\$6,112,708	-\$585,708
USAID	\$3,750,000	\$4,220,463	-\$470,463
USAID/WCF	\$1,777,000	\$1,892,245	-\$115,245
West Africa Region	\$1,750,157	\$2,064,567	-\$314,410
HHS/CDC	\$640,000	\$46,754	\$593,246
USAID	\$1,110,157	\$2,017,813	-\$907,656
USAID/WCF	\$0	\$0	\$0
Grand Total	\$54,100,634	\$42,958,679	\$11,141,955

TABLE 8. COP/ROP 2020 | FY 2021 Results & Expenditures

Agency	Indicator	FY21 Target	FY21 Result	% Achievement	Program Classification	FY21 Expenditure	% Service Delivery
HHS/HRSA	HTS_TST	30,235	54,873	181%	HTS Program	\$63,725	100%
	HTS_TST_POS	2,620	4,688	179%	Area		
	TX_NEW	3,965	2,695	147%	C&T Program	\$1,776,377	41%
	TX_CURR	8,016	7,271	91%	Area		
DOD	HTS_TST	5,104	4,653	91%	HTS Program	\$159,852	7%
	HTS_TST_POS	280	293	105%	Area		
	TX_NEW	269	306	114%	C&T Program	\$169,743	40%
	TX_CURR	1,203	1,114	93%	Area		
USAID	HTS_TST	277,411	432,020	156%	HTS Program	\$6,302,671	73%
	HTS_TST_POS	34,036	35,893	105%	Area		
	TX_NEW	32,160	33,229	103%	C&T Program	\$10,697,106	73%
	TX_CURR	154,011	141,646	92%	Area		
	Above Site Programs					\$8,292,782	
	Program Management					\$10,408,710	

SECTION 4: COP/ROP 2022 DIRECTIVES

The following section has specific directives for COP 2022 based on program performance noted above. Please review each section carefully including the minimum program requirements.

Minimum Program Requirements (MPR)

All PEPFAR programs – bilateral and regional– must ensure the following minimum program requirements are in place. Adherence to these policies and practices is essential to the success of all PEPFAR programs at the national, subnational, and service delivery levels (e.g., facility, school, community). Evidence demonstrates that lack of any one of these policies/practices significantly undermines HIV impact and results in inefficient and ineffective programs.

All PEPFAR programs are expected to meet all of the requirements below, and the COP22 Planning Meeting will include a review of the status of each requirement, including assessment of implementation (including barriers) at the point of client services. To the extent that any requirement(s) have not been met by the time of the COP22 Planning Meeting, the PEPFAR OU team will need to present a detailed description of existing barriers and the remediation plans proposed that will allow them to meet the requirement(s) prior to the beginning of FY2023. The list will be included in the Strategic Direction Summary (SDS), as well.

Failure to meet any of these requirements by the beginning of FY 2023 may affect the OU budget. The minimum requirements for continued PEPFAR support include the table below.

TABLE 9. COP/ROP 2022 (FY 2023) Minimum Program Requirements

Care and Treatment	
1.	<p>Adoption and implementation of Test and Start, with demonstrable access across all age, sex, and risk groups, and with direct and immediate (>95%) linkage of clients from testing to uninterrupted treatment across age, sex, and risk groups.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (adopted, full implementation underway)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Test and Start has been adopted by all eight countries in the West Africa Region; progress toward full implementation and increased linkage beyond PEPFAR sites is challenging due to stigma and discrimination in the region, particularly for KPs.</p>
2.	<p>Rapid optimization of ART by offering TLD to all PLHIV weighing ≥ 30 kg (including adolescents and women of childbearing potential), transition to other DTG-based regimens for children who are ≥ 4 weeks of age and weigh ≥ 3 kg, and removal of all NVP- and EFV-based ART regimens.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (TLD adopted, full implementation underway; DTG for pediatrics in policy development)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> The TLD transition has made rapid progress across FY20-21, and multiple countries converted existing TLE orders to TLD. Adoption of DTG-based regimens for children has been approved at the policy level in Benin and is underway in the rest of the countries as part of their routine processes to update therapeutic regimens, with implementation expected in FY22-23.</p>
3.	<p>Adoption and implementation of differentiated service delivery models for all clients with HIV, including six-month multi-month dispensing (MMD), decentralized drug distribution (DDD), and services designed to improve identification and ART coverage and continuity for different demographic and risk groups.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> Completed (in most countries)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> 6-month MMD transition still underway, many countries have mostly 3MMD and some with 6MMD; DDD and peer-led services for KPs have been scaled up. Concerns about insufficient supplies of ARVs and lack of documented viral load suppression have been barriers to fully implementing 6MMD in some instances.</p>
4.	<p>All eligible PLHIV, including children and adolescents, should complete TB preventive treatment (TPT), and cotrimoxazole, where indicated, must be fully integrated into the HIV clinical care package at no cost to the patient.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> n/a (no TPT services in the West Africa Region)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> n/a</p>
5.	<p>Completion of Diagnostic Network Optimization activities for VL/EID, TB, and other coinfections, and ongoing monitoring to ensure reductions in morbidity and mortality across age, sex, and risk groups, including 100% access to EID and annual viral load testing and results delivered to caregiver within 4 weeks.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY24)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> VL/EID optimization remains challenging across the West Africa Region; ROP21 activities are focused on improving reagent availability, sample transportation systems, and data systems needed to return results within four weeks. Significant progress still needs to be made to make viral load and EID access universally available across the region.</p>
Case Finding	
6.	<p>Scale-up of index testing and self-testing, ensuring consent procedures and confidentiality are protected and assessment of intimate partner violence (IPV) is established. All children under age 19 with an HIV positive biological parent should be offered testing for HIV.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY23)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Index testing policy adopted across the region, and sites have undergone the required evaluations and remediations for safe and ethical index testing. Now that improvements and training have</p>

taken place, countries are scaling up index testing to increase the proportion of new positives identified via index testing. All countries have policies in place to test all children with an HIV-positive biological parent.	
Prevention and OVC	
7.	<p>Direct and immediate assessment for and offer of prevention services, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), to HIV-negative clients found through testing in populations at elevated risk of HIV acquisition (PBFW and AGYW in high HIV-burden areas, high-risk HIV-negative partners of index cases, key populations and adult men engaged in high-risk sex practices)</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY23)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> PrEP policies adopted in every WAR country and PrEP has started to be implemented by Global Fund in most countries. PrEP should be scaled up significantly in ROP22 in all WAR countries.</p>
8.	<p>Alignment of OVC packages of services and enrollment to provide comprehensive prevention and treatment services to OVC ages 0-17, with particular focus on 1) actively facilitating testing for all children at risk of HIV infection, 2) facilitating linkage to treatment and providing support and case management for vulnerable children and adolescents living with HIV, 3) reducing risk for adolescent girls in high HIV-burden areas and for 10-14 year-old girls and boys in regard to primary prevention of sexual violence and HIV.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> n/a (no OVC services in the West Africa Region)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> n/a</p>
Policy & Public Health Systems Support	
9.	<p>In support of the targets set forth in the Global AIDS strategy and the commitments expressed in the 2021 political declaration, OUs demonstrate evidence of progress toward advancement of equity, reduction of stigma and discrimination, and promotion of human rights to improve HIV prevention and treatment outcomes for key populations, adolescent girls and young women, and other vulnerable groups.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY24)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Stigma and discrimination is a key barrier to HIV prevention activities and to test, treat, and virally suppress KPLHIV in the West Africa Region. Country teams continue to engage at local, national, and regional levels around these issues using both diplomatic and programmatic channels, but much work remains to advance equity and improve treatment outcomes for KPs within the region.</p>
10.	<p>Elimination of all formal and informal user fees in the public sector for access to all direct HIV services and medications, and related services, such as ANC, TB, cervical cancer, PrEP and routine clinical services affecting access to HIV testing and treatment and prevention.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> Completed</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Policies to eliminate formal and informal user fees are now in place in all WAR countries, and community groups are monitoring in-country implementation. Most countries in West Africa charge nominal fees to all citizens for basic health services (\$1-2/year), and surveys are conducted to monitor these costs and ensure they are not a barrier to clients receiving HIV-related services.</p>
11.	<p>OUs assure program and site standards, including infection prevention & control interventions and site safety standards, are met by integrating effective Quality Assurance (QA) and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) practices into site and program management. QA/CQI is supported by IP work plans, Agency agreements, and national policy.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY23)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> CQI practices began with the formalization of the West Africa Region in ROP19 and have been included in ROP20 and ROP21 IP work plans. SIMS visits are used to monitor quality of service delivery, but they have been hampered/delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions in many countries.</p>
12.	<p>Evidence of treatment literacy and viral load literacy activities supported by Ministries of Health, National AIDS Councils and other partner country leadership offices with the general population and health care</p>

<p>providers regarding U=U and other updated HIV messaging to reduce stigma and encourage HIV treatment and prevention.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> Completed</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Viral load and treatment literacy activities have been undertaken in all countries, including messaging around the TLD transition and U=U. However, stigma continues to be pervasive throughout the region.</p>
<p>13. Clear evidence of agency progress toward local partner direct funding, including increased funding to key populations-led and women-led organizations in support of Global AIDS Strategy targets related to community-, KP- and women-led responses.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY25)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Many local, indigenous partners are sub-recipients to PEPFAR IPs, but the capacity of local organizations to serve as prime partners needs to be further developed. The roll out of community-led monitoring activities in ROP20 and increased funding for CLM in ROP21 has allowed direct local funding for the first time in many countries in the region, including to KP-led organizations. In ROP22, countries should aim to add local partners where possible and increase the overall percentage of funds going to local vs. international partners, while building capacity of local partners to receive and implement PEPFAR funds.</p>
<p>14. Evidence of partner government assuming greater responsibility of the HIV response including demonstrable evidence of year after year increased resources expended.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY24)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Within the region, Liberia, Burkina Faso, and Togo provide the highest relative proportion of funding toward their HIV responses. Political will, in the form of increased funding for HIV, continues to lag in Ghana but has improved over the past three years. Political instability and security concerns in both Mali and Burkina Faso pose a threat to these countries' ability to increase health investments in the near future. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic threaten the ability of host-country governments to increase or even meet their budgets for the HIV response, although steps should be taken to increase domestic resource mobilization.</p>
<p>15. Monitoring and reporting of morbidity and mortality outcomes including infectious and non-infectious morbidity.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY22)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> Morbidity and mortality outcomes were monitored and reported for the first time in ROP19 for some countries and ROP20 for others, and reporting has improved throughout ROP20 implementation. The difficulty for some clinicians and case managers to track interruption in treatment (LTFU), primarily due to incorrect contact information, is a threat to complete monitoring and reporting of morbidity and mortality outcomes, but steps are being taken to correct this gap via the eTracker and other non-paper-based methods.</p>
<p>16. Scale-up of case surveillance and unique identifiers for patients across all sites.</p> <p><u>Status:</u> In-process (target date = end of FY23)</p> <p><u>Issues or Barriers:</u> The scale-up of unique identifiers has progressed in all countries, but still needs to be implemented beyond PEPFAR-supported sites in most countries. The PEPFAR eTracker system is being further refined and rolled out across the region, contributing to the increased use of UIDs.</p>

In addition to meeting the minimum requirements outlined above, it is expected that the West Africa Region will consider all the following technical directives and priorities. A full list of COP/ROP 2022 Technical Priorities and Considerations are listed in COP guidance and can be referenced in Section 6.

Region-wide, closing the remaining gaps in the clinical cascade must be a priority in ROP22. Optimization of case-finding, including expansion of safe and ethical index testing, scaling of patient-

centered approaches to improve linkage and continuity of care, and improvements in viral load coverage should be prioritized in ROP22 planning. Additionally, supply chain strengthening including data-use for decision-making, 6-month MMD, complete TLD transition, and PrEP activities should be planned for and implemented in ROP22, working closely with multilateral partners and host-country governments. ARV commodities purchases should be reduced from ROP21 levels in Burkina Faso and Togo. Geographic and staffing footprints should be maintained from ROP21, with increased efficiencies and a focus on regional staffing support and efforts taken where possible. The Regional PEPFAR Coordinator LNA position (see ICASS in Table 5; more detailed budgetary information on LNA cost is forthcoming) is included in Ghana's budget amount in Table 1a and must be incorporated into the ROP22 submission. Increased support to local partners must be considered and community-led monitoring activities begun in ROP20-21 should continue and expand where possible.

Table 10. COP/ROP 2022 (FY 2023) Technical Directives

West Africa Region-Specific Directives
HIV Clinical Services
1. Support the complete transition to TLD and DTG10 at both the policy- and clinical-level in all eight PEPFAR West Africa Region countries, at both PEPFAR-supported and non-PEPFAR-supported sites.
2. Accelerate adoption of MMD and increase proportion of 6-MMD level in all eight PEPFAR West Africa Region countries, at both PEPFAR-supported and non-PEPFAR-supported sites.
3. Improve viral-load access, including commodity availability, machine reliability and lab capacity, transportation networks, and data systems, to ensure at least 95% viral load coverage for all eligible patients in the region.
HIV Prevention Services
1. Expand and scale up PrEP for KPs and AGYW - In COP/ROP 2022, PrEP should continue to be scaled up with a focus on ensuring policy and programmatic access to PrEP for higher incidence populations. Populations prioritized for PrEP should be tailored to the OU's epidemic context with a focus on Key Populations (including sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender people, people in prisons and other closed settings, people who inject drugs), adolescent girls and young women including pregnant and breastfeeding AGYW, and other identified higher-incidence populations. As the scale-up of PrEP is an area of significant emphasis for the West Africa Region in ROP22, PrEP was given an earmark for the first time and was increased from the ROP21 approved amount.
2. Support activities to counter stigma and discrimination against PLHIV and KPs, including working alongside faith-based and civil society organizations, in all eight countries in the PEPFAR West Africa Region.
Other Government Policy, Systems, or Programming Changes Needed
1. Promote policies to remove structural barriers for KPs across the region - COP/ROP 2022 plans should prioritize and take specific steps to address the structural barriers that impede scale up of KP-led and KP-competent differentiated HIV services, as well as the lack of robust data to guide key populations programming. To strengthen strategic information to guide KP responses, plans may include efforts to strengthen individual level data systems and analyses and address gaps in subnational data. Addressing structural barriers should entail improving the enabling environment for HIV service delivery; mitigating harmful policy and social norms that fuel stigma, discrimination and violence faced by key populations; strengthening the capacity of key populations organizations; and strengthening the KP competency of HIV service providers. PEPFAR teams should ensure they are coordinating strategically with relevant State and U.S. government units (e.g., DRL), partner

government, multilateral, and other donor funding streams and institutions. As part of the new COP 22 MPR, PEPFAR teams will be expected to describe and present their approach to improving KP data and addressing barriers to accelerated KP-centered HIV services during COP/ROP 22 planning meetings.

2. Within the region, Ghana has been selected to participate in the focal countries collaboration, an effort among the Global Fund, UNAIDS and PEPFAR to measurably reduce stigma and discrimination through increased coordination, collaboration and planning with communities, governments and national partners, in a set of focal countries over a 3-5 year period. The focal countries collaboration will help advance efforts toward meeting the 10-10-10 societal enabler targets and PEPFAR's minimum program requirement #9, and will build upon existing initiatives, activities and coordinating mechanisms. As an initial step, PEPFAR teams are requested to work with partners to convene a meeting during the strategic planning meeting window (January 24th - February 11) to take stock of key opportunities to advance national efforts to address HIV-related stigma and discrimination, such as, as applicable, national strategic plans, and new evidence provided by the PLHIV Stigma Index 2.0 and GF Breaking Down Barriers mid-term assessments. It is expected that such stock taking will inform coordinated action in funding and implementing comprehensive programmatic strategies to reduce stigma and discrimination at scale and promote partner government and community leadership at the country level.

3. Conduct supply chain optimization activities for all HIV commodities (testing, treatment, prevention, and viral load), potentially to include starting centralized supply chain visibility approaches for the region as a whole.

COP/ROP 2022 Active Engagement with Community and Civil Society (see section 2.5.3 of COP Guidance)

The full participation of community stakeholders and civil society in every stage of PEPFAR programming, planning, and monitoring, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, regulations and policy, from advocacy to service delivery, is critical to the success and sustainability of PEPFAR and the global effort to combat HIV. Sustained control of the HIV/AIDS epidemic necessitates that PEPFAR teams actively and routinely coordinate and communicate with all partners, including local, regional, and international civil society and community stakeholders, multilateral partners and the partner country government.

Civil society organizations are essential and to be invited to participate in the virtual COP22 strategic retreats, planning meetings, as well as approval meetings. In particular, engagement with local CSOs at the country-level is required and should begin early and continue during the entirety of the COP planning, monitoring, and implementation process.

This engagement of civil society, including faith-based organizations/faith communities, specifically includes the sharing of FY 2021 Q4 and FY 2021 Annual Program Results (APR), analyses, and the convening of an in-country planning retreat with local stakeholders, no later than the week of February 7, 2022, in order to introduce and discuss all COP/ROP 2022 tools, guidance, results and targets as well as the proposed trajectory and strategy for COP/ROP 2022. The PEPFAR investments to support the national response must be planned intentionally with the Global Fund, with teams demonstrating how complementarity was achieved to ensure maximal impact on the HIV/AIDS epidemic is achieved.

In March 2022, PEPFAR will convene virtual meetings where outstanding decisions will be discussed and finalized. In addition to partner country representatives, the meetings will also include representatives from local and international civil society and community organizations, faith-based organizations/faith communities, private sector, and multilateral partners. Specific guidance for the 2022 virtual meeting delegations will be provided separately.

Engagement with all stakeholders is required beyond the meetings and throughout COP/ROP 2022 development, finalization, and implementation. As in COP/ROP 2021, the draft Strategic Direction Summary (SDS) is required to be shared with both CSO and FBO stakeholders for their input and comments at least 7 days prior to submission to S/GAC. Please refer to the COP/ROP 2022 Guidance for a full list of requirements and engagement timelines. In addition, a more detailed timeline for sharing key data visualizations and other information with stakeholders is forthcoming.

Community-led Monitoring (CLM)

In addition to prescribed and routine engagement during PEPFAR's annual business cycle, including around COP/ROP planning and quarterly POART processes, all PEPFAR programs are required to develop, support, and fund community-led monitoring (CLM) in close collaboration with independent, local civil society organizations and host country governments. Community-led monitoring in COP22 should build on prior activities in COP21 and be designed to help PEPFAR programs and health institutions pinpoint persistent problems, challenges, barriers, and enablers to effective client outcomes at the site level. In addition to being data-driven and action-oriented, CLM should continue to ensure indicators are defined by communities and health service users, and data should be additive and not a duplicate collection of routine data already available to PEPFAR through MER or SIMS. New in COP22, PEPFAR-supported community-led monitoring programs must include an explicit focus on key populations. CLM should be utilized to advance equity and to support improvement in programs, especially for populations who have not yet fully experienced the benefits of HIV epidemic control. For example, OUs with pediatric care and treatment programs should consider utilizing CLM to track and ensure accountability for child, adolescent, and family-centered care.

APPENDIX 1: Detailed Budgetary Requirements

Care and Treatment: Each OU's COP/ROP 2022 minimum requirement for the care and treatment earmark is reflected in Table 2. If there is no adjustment to the COP/ROP 2022 new funding level due to an adjustment in applied pipeline, countries must program to the full Care and Treatment earmark amount across new FY 2022 GHP-State and GHP-USAID funding. The Care and Treatment earmark will be calculated as the sum of the following:

- ♦100% Care and Treatment (C&T) Program Areas
- ♦50% Testing (HTS) Program Areas
- ♦100% Above Site Program: Laboratory System Strengthening
- ♦70% Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women Beneficiary Group
- ♦Proportional % Program Management (Proportional Program Management will vary by mechanism and will be determined by the amount of other interventions at the mechanism that count towards the C&T earmark)

Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC): Each OU's COP/ROP 2022 minimum requirement for the OVC earmark is reflected in Table 2. Countries must program to the full OVC earmark amount across new FY 2022 GHP-State and GHP-USAID funding. The OVC earmark will be calculated as the sum of the following:

- 85% (DREAMS initiative funding — commodities planned under DREAMS initiative — Any HTS interventions planned under DREAMS initiative — Any C&T intervention planned under DREAMS initiative)
- 100% (OVC Beneficiary group funding — commodities planned under any intervention with OVC beneficiaries — Any HTS planned under interventions with OVC beneficiaries
- Proportional Program Management (Proportional Program Management will vary by mechanism and will be determined by the amount of other interventions at the mechanism that count towards the OVC earmark)

Abstinence, Be Faithful/Youth (AB/Y) Reporting Requirement: If AB/Y-programmed activities do not reach a 50 percent threshold of all sexual prevention funding, as calculated by the formula below, in any country with a generalized epidemic, S/GAC is required to report to the appropriate Congressional committees on the justification for the decision. Generalized epidemic countries which do not meet the 50 percent threshold must provide a brief written justification in FACTS Info, explaining the rationale for prevention programming decisions given the epidemiologic context, contributions of other donors, and other relevant factors.

Abstinence, Be Faithful/Youth (AB/Y) programming, formerly captured in the HVAB budget code, will now be captured by using a combination of prevention program areas and beneficiaries, which are identified in the formula below. The numerator captures those interventions that are Abstinence, Be Faithful/Youth (AB/Y) programming, and the denominator approximates all sexual prevention activities. The proportion of Abstinence, Be Faithful/Youth (AB/Y) programming as a proportion of all sexual prevention activities is calculated by dividing the numerator by the denominator:

Numerator

Prevention: primary prevention of HIV and sexual violence

(For OVC, OVC caregivers, young people and adolescents, children, young women and adolescent females, girls, young men and adolescent boys, and boys)

+

Prevention: community mobilization, behavior, and norms change

(For OVC, OVC caregivers, young people and adolescents, children, young women and adolescent females, girls, young men and adolescent boys, boys, adults, not disaggregated)

Denominator

Prevention: primary prevention of HIV and sexual violence (all populations)

+

Prevention: community mobilization, behavior, and norms change (all populations)

+

50 % Prevention: Not disaggregated (all populations)

Gender Based Violence (GBV): Each OU's COP/ROP 2021 minimum requirement for the GBV earmark is reflected in Table 2. Your GBV earmark requirement is calculated as the total **new FY 2022** funding programmed to the GBV cross-cutting code. Your COP/ROP 2022 earmark is derived by using the final COP/ROP 2021 GBV earmark allocation as a baseline. The COP/ROP 2022 planned level of new FY 2022 funds for GBV can be above this amount; however, it cannot fall below it.

Water: Each OU's COP/ROP 2021 minimum requirement for the water earmark is reflected in Table

2. Your water earmark requirement is calculated as the total **new FY 2022 funding** programmed to the water cross-cutting code. Your COP/ROP 2021 earmark is derived by using the final COP/ROP 2021 water earmark allocation as a baseline. The COP/ROP 2022 planned level of new FY 2022 funds for water can be above this amount; however, it cannot fall below it.

Initiative Controls: Table 3 shows initiative controls where S/GAC has directed funding for a set of activities that cannot be accounted for through program areas and/or beneficiaries alone. These controls can be exceeded without a control change, but a control change would be required before a lower level for these activities can be planned.

The four initiative controls below (**Cervical Cancer, DREAMS, OVC (non-DREAMS), and VMMC**) have been assigned to the appropriate OUs. For OUs where these controls are designated in the PLL, the amounts reflect the minimum required. These initiative controls can be exceeded without a control change, but a control change request would be required before a lower level for these activities can be planned.

Cervical Cancer - This initiative provides funding for all activities related to cervical cancer screening and diagnosis and treatment of precancerous cervical lesions for women living with HIV as outlined in the COP Guidance.

DREAMS - The DREAMS initiative should capture all funding specifically allocated as DREAMS in the OU's planning level and must be used for the goal of HIV and sexual violence prevention among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) ages 10-24 years (unless otherwise approved) in approved DREAMS SNUs in accordance with the DREAMS and COP Guidance. The DREAMS initiative can also include prevention interventions in DREAMS geographic areas for girls and boys aged 10-14 which may be cost shared with the OVC (non-DREAMS) initiative as noted in the COP guidance.

OVC (non-DREAMS) - OVC (non-DREAMS) is a new initiative in COP/ROP 2022. OUs should use the initiative to budget for OVC (non-DREAMS) programming, including all OVC comprehensive activities as outlined in the COP Guidance. The OVC (non-DREAMS) initiative should include ASP, SE, and PREV costs (except PrEP and VMMC) linked to any OVC beneficiary (including sub-beneficiaries such as OVC caregivers). As the initiative is new for COP/ROP 2022, OUs should pay particular attention to funds programmed under OVC (non-DREAMS) to ensure that the current cohort of children enrolled in the comprehensive program receive continuity of care for FY 2023. The OVC (non-DREAMS) initiative can also include prevention interventions for girls and boys aged 10-14 which may be cost-shared with the DREAMS initiative as noted in the COP guidance. The OVC (non-DREAMS) initiative cannot be met with any HTS, C&T, PM or commodities costs.

VMMC - All services and equipment related to providing surgical and ShangRing VMMC for boys/men ages 15 and above, and ShangRing circumcision only for boys age 13 and 14 years, should be budgeted using the VMMC initiative.

While the CLM initiative does not appear in PLL budget tables, as CLM remains a requirement in COP/ROP 2022 for all OUs, each OU is responsible for programming a portion of funds under the **Community-Led Monitoring** initiative.

Community-Led Monitoring - During COP/ROP 2020, PEPFAR invested in expansion of community-led monitoring, making it a requirement of all OUs, as a critical way to listen to community voices in assessment of program quality and design of client-centered services. Community-led monitoring remains a requirement in FY 2023.

In addition to the five initiatives above, S/GAC may also allocate funding to OUs under three additional initiative controls: **Condoms (GHP-USAID Central Funding)**, **USAID Southern Africa Regional Platform**, and **One-Time Conditional Funding**. If the OU was designated to receive funding under one or more of these initiatives in COP/ROP 2022, Table 3 will reflect these amounts. Unless otherwise noted, country teams should meet these funding controls when programming in their FAST.

Condoms (GHP-USAID Central Funding) - This initiative control denotes the amount of GHP-USAID central funding the country team may use to procure male and female condoms, lubricants, and to ship these commodities to the OU. Any additional condoms and lubricants to be procured with PEPFAR funding should be budgeted in the FAST with bilateral funding.

USAID Southern Africa Regional Platform - This initiative is for the country's share of the costs to operate the USAID Southern Africa Regional Platform, which provides administrative and technical support for Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia. These funds were previously planned as part of the bilateral COP funding, but are now budgeted and notified centrally, with country amounts included as central funding in the overall COP levels for Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia. Only these 5 countries may use this initiative, and this initiative can only be used with central funding specifically provided as part of the PLL controls.

One-Time Conditional Funding - The release of any funding made available under this initiative is contingent upon the OU's ability to meet all requirements outlined in their final COP/ROP approval memo. OUs that fail to meet these minimum standards may be ineligible to receive these funds for programmatic implementation in FY 2023.

No control is set in the PLL for the **HBCU Tx** and **Surveillance and Public Health Response** initiatives, but OUs may include relevant funds under these initiatives instead of Core Program as appropriate.

All funding not attributed to one of the nine COP/ROP 2022 initiatives above should be attributed to the **Core Program** initiative.

For additional details on initiatives, see the [PEPFAR Financial Classifications Reference Guide](#).

Programmatic Controls: Table 4 shows programmatic controls where S/GAC has directed funding for certain programmatic activities. These controls can be exceeded without a control change, but a control change would be required before a lower level for these activities can be planned. Since every dollar programmed in COP must belong to one initiative, programmatic controls will be a subset of one or more initiative controls, even if the standard Core Program initiative.

PrEP (AGYW) - The PrEP (AGYW) programmatic control tracks all funding budgeted under the Prevention – PrEP program area and sub-program area for the Females – Adolescent Girls and Young Women sub-beneficiary. The control encompasses both service delivery (SD) and non-service delivery (NSD) activities, inclusive of any commodities costs. OUs should tailor the distribution of funds to SD and NSD based on the country context prioritizing the provision of PrEP services and increasing the number of AGYW on PrEP wherever possible. Countries with a PrEP (AGYW) control should expect to program no more than 10 to 30 percent of their control as non-service delivery.

PrEP (KPs) - The PrEP (KPs) programmatic control tracks all funding budgeted under the Prevention – PrEP program area and sub-program area for all sub-beneficiaries under the KP beneficiary. The control encompasses both service delivery (SD) and non-service delivery (NSD) activities, inclusive of any commodities costs. OUs should tailor the distribution of funds to SD and NSD based on the country context prioritizing the provision of PrEP services and increasing the number of KPs on PrEP wherever

possible. Countries with a PrEP (KPs) control should expect to program no more than 10 to 30 percent of their control as non-service delivery.

State ICASS: Table 5 shows the amount that the OU must program under State for ICASS Costs.

Funds Programmed under State/SGAC (S/GAC TBDs)

No funding may be programmed under State/SGAC without prior approval from S/GAC M&B. In general State/SGAC TBDs are only used in extraordinary and or unusual circumstances. To the degree that funding is approved, the rationale and any conditions attached to the funding will be documented by M&B. Any S/GAC TBDs approved during COP/ROP 2022 planning will require supplemental language in the OU's COP/ROP 2022 approval memo, clearly outlining the process for how these funds can be accessed. Any funds that have not been distributed to agencies before the end of FY 2023 may be subject to reprogramming in future planning cycles towards the same OU or another OU.

COP/ROP 2022 Applied Pipeline (See Section 9.1.2 Applied Pipeline of COP Guidance)

Whenever possible, all agencies within an OU should hold several months of pipeline at the end of COP/ROP 2022 implementation in order to ensure sufficient funds and prevent disruptions in service delivery in the event of funding delays. If an agency/OU combination has a history of over-outlays, or in cases where an agency/OU COP envelope has increased in recent years, there may not be sufficient funding to maintain this buffer. With the exception of Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Haiti, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Asia Regional Program, and Western Hemisphere Regional Program, which should hold up to four months of pipeline, all other OUs are permitted to hold no more than three months of buffer pipeline.

Any agency that anticipates ending COP/ROP 2021 implementation (end of FY 2022) with a pipeline in excess of three or four months is required to apply this excessive pipeline to COP/ROP 2022, decreasing the new funding amount to stay within the planning level.

Transitioning HIV Services to Local Partners

To sustain epidemic control, it is critical that the full range of HIV prevention and treatment services are owned and operated by local institutions, governments, and organizations – regardless of current ARV coverage levels. The intent of the transitioning to local partners is to increase the delivery of direct HIV services, along with non-direct services provided at the site, and establish sufficient capacity, capability, and durability of these local partners to ensure successful, long-term local partner engagement and impact. This action is a priority for all OUs, Regional Programs and Country Pairs. In COP19 Guidance, PEPFAR set a goal that 40% of partners must be local by the end of FY19, and 70% by the end of FY20. While considerable progress was made in this effort, the 70% mark was not achieved by all agencies in all OUs, and thus in FY22 and FY23, teams must continue to prioritize this so that the 70% goal can be realized. Each country has to contribute to this goal based on the context of the local partner mix and types of public and private partners available to provide essential services. Therefore, each OU agency should work with their respective agency HQ in determining their contribution in meeting the agency level local partner requirement for FY23 as appropriate through their COP/ROP 2022 submission.